UNITED
NATIONS

A S

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/52/180
S/1997/448
11 June 1997
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-second session
Items 39 and 148 of the
preliminary list*
OCEANS AND THE LAW OF THE SEA
UNITED NATIONS DECADE OF
INTERNATIONAL LAW

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-second year

Letter dated 10 June 1997 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of the United Arab Emirates to
the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of paragraph (a) of the section referring to the issue of the occupation of the three islands belonging to the United Arab Emirates and relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran that appeared in the press communiqué issued by the Ministerial Council of the Gulf Cooperation Council at its sixty-third session, held at Riyadh on 31 May 1997.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under items 39 and 148 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Khalid Khalifa AL-MUALLA
Chargé d'afffaires a.i.

* A/52/50.

97-15853 (E) 130697 160697 170697

ANNEX

Extract from a communiqué issued by the Ministerial Council of the Gulf Cooperation Council at its sixty-third session, held at Riyadh on 31 May 1997

The issue of the occupation of the three islands belonging to the United Arab Emirates and relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran

(a) The issue of the occupation of the three islands belonging to the United Arab Emirates

The Ministerial Council studied developments in the matter of the occupation of the three islands of the Greater Tunb, the Lesser Tunb and Abu Musa, belonging to the United Arab Emirates. The Council noted that the Iranian Government continued to implement measures aimed at consolidating its occupation of the three islands, carrying to extremes the policy of using force to impose the status quo. This represents a determination to proceed with its unjustified and provocative actions. The Council reiterated its deep regret at the continuing failure of the Islamic Republic of Iran to respond to the repeated sincere and serious invitations to seek a solution to this issue by peaceful means offered by the United Arab Emirates and regional and international organizations and groups. The Ministerial Council expressed its disapproval of the successive measures taken by Iran in the islands belonging to the United Arab Emirates and its continuing concern as to the results of the Iranian Government's extremism in pursuing the policy of using force to impose the status quo in the three islands of the Greater Tunb, the Lesser Tunb and Abu Musa, in violation of the sovereignty of the United Arab Emirates and in encroachment of the latter's rights in these islands. Peace and security in the region are threatened thereby, and the principles and precepts of international law and the Charters of the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference completely disregarded, together with the principles of good-neighbourliness and the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the States of the region.

The Council reaffirmed the sovereignty of the United Arab Emirates over the three islands of the Greater Tunb, the Lesser Tunb and Abu Musa and its absolute support for all the peaceful measures being taken to recover its sovereignty over these islands. The Council reiterated its appeal to the Iranian Government to end its occupation of the three islands, suspend its policy of using force to impose the status quo, halt construction of all Iranian installations on the islands intended to alter the demographic structure and remove any existing installations, annul any unilateral decisions already imposed on the three islands and employ peaceful means to resolve the conflict over them in accordance with the principles and rules of international law, which would include accepting that the matter could be dealt with by the International Court of Justice.